

AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 25, 2004

SENATE BILL

No. 1858

Introduced by Senator Dunn

February 20, 2004

An act to add Section 451.5 to the *Public Utilities Code*, relating to the statewide emergency telephone system.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1858, as amended, Dunn. ~~Statewide Telephone corporations:~~ *statewide emergency telephone system.*

Existing law generally sets forth the criteria governing the statewide “911” emergency telephone system. *The existing Emergency Telephone Users Surcharge Act generally imposes a surcharge on amounts paid by every person in the state for intrastate telephone service to fund “911” emergency telephone system costs. Surcharge amounts are paid to the State Board of Equalization by the telephone service supplier, and are deposited into the State Treasury to the credit of the State Emergency Telephone Number Account in the General Fund, for appropriation by the Legislature solely for certain purposes associated with the “911” emergency telephone number system, including the payment of bills submitted by service suppliers for the installation of, and ongoing expenses for, that system.*

Under existing law, the Public Utilities Commission has regulatory authority over public utilities, including telephone corporations, and authorizes the commission to fix just and reasonable rates and charges, and requires that all charges demanded or received by any public utility for any product or commodity furnished or any service rendered by just and reasonable.

This bill would ~~state the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation to improve that system~~ *require the commission to ensure that all funds paid to a telephone corporation from the State Emergency Telephone Number Account, are reflective of charges that are just and reasonable.*

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 ~~SECTION 1. It is the intent of the Legislature to enact~~
2 ~~legislation to improve the statewide “911” emergency telephone~~
3 ~~system.~~

4 *SECTION 1. Section 451.5 is added to the Public Utilities*
5 *Code, to read:*

6 *451.5. The commission shall ensure that all funds paid to a*
7 *telephone corporation from the State Emergency Telephone*
8 *Number Account pursuant to the Emergency Telephone Users*
9 *Surcharge Act (Part 20 (commencing with Section 41001) of*
10 *Division 2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code), are reflective of*
11 *charges that are just and reasonable.*

